

Eifel Times

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Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

www.spangdahlem.af.mil

Sept. 29, 2006

News Briefs

New command chief

The 52nd Fighter Wing welcomes the new Command Chief Master Sgt. Vance Clarke and his wife, Pam. Chief Clarke arrived here Thursday from his previous assignment as the Seventh Air Force Command Chief Master Sergeant, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The chief enlisted in the Air Force in the summer of 1980 and has been command chief at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo., Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., and Ali Al Salem, Kuwait.



Chief Master Sgt. Vance Clarke

Safety, wellness day

The wing commander hosts a safety and wellness day Tuesday. A wing commander's call takes place in Hangar 1 from 7-8 a.m. and 9-10 a.m. for all enlisted personnel under the age of 26; from noon to 1 p.m. in the base theater for officers; and from 3-4 p.m. for all SNCOs. A quarterly flight safety meeting for all pilots and controllers takes place in Club Eifel from 1-2 p.m., and commander-led presentations throughout the units focus on ground safety, responsible drinking, suicide prevention, health and wellness, and operational risk management. For details, call Maj. Matt Albright at 452-6923.

CFC kick off

The Combined Federal Campaign kicks off Sunday and runs through Dec. 1. The CFC is an annual charity drive for all Federal Employees. CFC representatives will be at the Spangdahlem AB B-Xtra Monday from 2:30-5:30 p.m. For details, call 2nd Lt. Justin Hickey at 452-6405 or Senior Master Sgt. Roberta Wagner at 452-6039.

AF Ball emcee auditions

The Air Force Ball planning committee needs an emcee for the Oct. 28 event. All ranks are welcome to apply; people can audition alone or in pairs; and people who recently returned from a deployment are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is Oct. 6. Auditions are Oct. 13. For details, call Capt. Nekitha Little at 452-6524.

Get ready, set, go!

Read "BHS runs around the world five years straight" on page 8.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephanie Sawyer

Hugs galore

Senior Airman Chad Holloway, 606th Air Control Squadron Satellite, Wideband and Telemetry Systems journeyman, holds his daughter Emily, 1, after returning home Sept. 22 from a four month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Roughly 90 Airmen from the 606th ACS returned home to their families and friends.

Has it been a year already?

726th AMS celebrates first year at new home

By Senior Airman Eydie Sakura
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

One year ago, the 52nd Fighter Wing welcomed a new mission and a new era of flying operations to Spangdahlem Air Base after the "Gateway to Europe" at Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany, closed its doors for good September 2005.

The men and women of the 726th Air Mobility Squadron were tasked to simultaneously stand up a new location and move the squadron nearly 120 miles away.

Lt. Col. James Kirk, 726th AMS commander, said his squadron did not miss a beat in the transition from a full, high-volume mission near Frankfurt, where they worked missions up until the last day at Rhein-Main, and continued the very next day at Spangdahlem AB without an interruption in capacity.

"Our folks were running missions while they were in-processing, house hunting and settling in their families into new homes," he said. "We couldn't have accomplished anything without the great support and partnership we've received and continue to receive from this proud wing."

Airman 1st Class William Mangin said comparing the two air bases is like comparing apples to oranges, as Rhein-Main and Spangdahlem are at opposite ends of the spectrum.

"At Rhein-Main, I came in for the last year of the mission and then coming to Spang, we started a whole new one," the 726th AMS passenger service agent said. "Here, we started from the ground up with setting up a new building and a new mission and have grown from there. I feel



Photo by Lt. Col. Gary Grape

C-17 Globemaster III Air Mobility Command planes sit on the ramp near the 726th Air Mobility Squadron at sunset. The 726th AMS set up camp here one year ago after the closure of Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany, in September 2005.

very fortunate to have been part of the team who closed the mission at Rhein-Main and then came here to start a new one. I don't think many people in my career field get that sort of opportunity."

The air mobility mission has not changed from the transition more than one year ago, as the demand on air mobility to fight the Global War on Terrorism is still a number one priority to the U.S. Air Force.

Moving the 10th Mountain Division kept Master Sgt. Marcel Balaoro, 726th AMS Aircraft Maintenance Unit flight chief and his crew busy in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

"We were breaking our own records as far as missions per month," Sergeant Balaoro said. "We pushed more than 700 mission events per month during the surge and this lasted about two months. We had minimum manning, but we accomplished a lot."

Sergeant Balaoro said the missions would not have been the successes they were without the help of the 52nd Fighter Wing personnel, such as the troops from petroleum, oil and lubricants; sheet metal; transportation; hazardous material; and aircraft generation equipment.

The 726th AMS moved more than 3,000 tons of cargo, nearly 16,000 passengers and successfully completed about 1,600 aircraft mission events since its first launch last year.

"We're celebrating this first anniversary here with pride, and we're focusing on constant improvement as we continue our airlift legacy into the future," Colonel Kirk said. "We're extremely proud to be a part of the 52nd Fighter Wing, and we feel we're adding to the standard of excellence here with our great people, important mission and many outstanding contributions."

RESCON Watch

DELTA

4+ DUIs/ARIs in the Last 30 Days

Days since last DUI/ARI: **6**

Rank of last DUI/ARI: senior airman
Squadrons of last DUI/ARI:

52nd Component Maintenance Squadron

260 Airmen's lives were saved by the Airmen

Against Drunk Driving Program since

Jan. 1, 2006. When going out and your plan falls through call AADD for a ride, at 06565-61-2233.

USAFE opens Parish Enlisted Heritage Room

By Master Sgt. Chuck Roberts
U.S. Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany -- A former chief master sergeant of the Air Force dedicated to the preservation of enlisted history was honored at a ceremonial opening of an enlisted heritage room bearing his name.

The Parish Enlisted Heritage Room became a reality Sept. 22 at the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Headquarters building where artifacts dating back to World War II have found a home.

It was also a homecoming of sorts for former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Sam E. Parish, the eighth chief master sergeant of the Air Force from 1983 to 1986, and the USAFE senior enlisted advisor from 1977 to 1980.

"You know it's always good to come back home, and especially for something like this," Chief Parish said before a large crowd outside the headquarters building. "I've been an advocate for inclusion of our enlisted men and women and our written Air Force history, and anybody that's ever heard me talk has known that for many years. We're getting better, but we're not there yet. For USAFE to take this step, well in my humble opinion, there's no honor that could be greater than to be selected to help dedicate this heritage center."

Chief Parish said he was honored, but noted the honor was not all his.

"There are so many others that have come before and contributed so much to our Air Force and USAFE. To say I'm honored, I think, would be a gross, gross understatement," said Chief Parish.

In his introductory remarks, USAFE Commander Gen. Tom Hobbins praised the vital contributions of enlisted USAFE Airmen spanning World War II, the Berlin Airlift, the Cold War, two Gulf



Photo by Senior Airman Christopher Willis

Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Sam E. Parish, left, talks with U.S. Air Forces in Europe Commander Gen. Tom Hobbins, center, and USAFE Command Chief Master Sgt. Gary Coleman inside the Parish Enlisted Heritage Room soon after a ceremony marking the opening of the heritage room bearing his name.

Wars and the continued fight in the Global War on Terrorism.

"It's only fitting that as we begin to celebrate these milestones, we dedicate the USAFE Heritage Room in honor of the eighth chief master sergeant of the Air Force, Sam E. Parish, for his many contributions to the morale and welfare of enlisted troops throughout USAFE, past and present," said General Hobbins.

The concept for the Parish Heritage Room came about when USAFE collected about \$32,000 for the Berlin to Baghdad Memorial Fund conducted by the Air Force Enlisted Heritage Hall at Maxwell Air Force Base -- Gunter Annex, Alabama. The pur-

pose of the fund drive was to provide museum-quality exhibits and displays for the Enlisted Heritage Hall's new wing dealing with the Cold War era.

"It caused us to reflect on what kind of displays, artifacts we had here in the command reflective of enlisted men and women's contributions," said USAFE Command Chief Master Sergeant Gary Coleman, who spearheaded the effort to transform the former drab training room into a stylish collection that includes artifacts, historical photos and uniforms, and a viewing section for audiovisual presentations. Also contributing toward the drive for a new home for the existing artifacts was the redesign to the entry for the USAFE headquarters building where they were displayed.

Chief Coleman echoed the sentiments of Chief Parish about the need for better care of documenting enlisted Air Force history.

"If you review volumes of text in Air Force history, you will find very little documentation of the contributions of enlisted men and women," Chief Coleman said. "It's important for today's Airmen to know where we've been, to appreciate better where we're at, and more importantly, looking forward to the future," said Chief Coleman.

The heritage room collection scored high marks from Tech. Sgt. Treena Merk, a professional military education instructor from Kapaun Air Station, Germany, who said Chief Parish was right on the mark about preserving enlisted history.

"It's an attribute to the enlisted force and to try to get everybody on the same page on our traditions. We're part of that history and tradition, and I feel proud to be a part of that."

The room was created through a wide variety of workers and volunteers, to include civil engineers, the Kisling NCO Academy, visual information center, and the Ramstein Enlisted Spouses Association, among others.

Command chief panel discusses enlisted issues, concerns

By Airman R. Michael Longoria
11th Wing Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -- Change, readiness and winning the war on terrorism were the three top issues discussed during the command chiefs' forum at the 2006 Air Force Association Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition here Sept. 25.

"We must deal with changes and focus on the No. 1 priority facing us today: winning the Global War on Terrorism," said Command Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Bishop, Pacific Air Forces. "As a service, we were born out of change in 1947. We must ensure we communicate the variety of changes impacting the enlisted force, but we also must keep ourselves focused on our primary task."

Chief Bishop was one of six Air Force command chiefs sitting on the panel responding to questions from an audience of nearly 2,000 people.

Several of the Air Force's enlisted

senior leaders addressed Air Force Smart Operations 21, or AFSO 21. One question posed to the command chiefs called for allowing first-term Airmen to become familiar with their jobs before contributing to AFSO 21.

"That's a good point, but we need to listen to them," said Chief Barron. "Our young Airmen are smart, and they have some terrific ideas. So maybe we gradually train our folks in AFSO 21, start off with a little bit of technical training and give them more as they advance through enlisted professional military education."

Chief Barron said all major commands are in the process of sending one person to specific training to become the enlisted expert in AFSO 21.

"That person is going to be receiving 26 weeks worth of training, and that Airmen is going to be the expert for each of our commands."

Emphasizing the need to work

smarter, Chief Popp reminded the audience that the Air Force is reducing its size by about 40,000 positions.

One master sergeant in the audience said he had a love for the Air Force, but with force shaping and downsizing, he was having a hard time motivating the same feelings in other people. He asked the command chiefs what would be the one piece of advice they would give to help motivate Airmen.

"I was the vice president of a bank during the 35 years that I've been in the Air National Guard. I made a lot of loans, and I foreclosed on a lot of loans. But that was a job," said Chief Smith. "Serving in the Air Force is a passion. The clothes I wore to my civilian job were just that -- clothes. This is the uniform of my country. I still get that lump in my throat every morning when I put on the uniform. I've never lost that fire, never lost that passion."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Cohen Young

Chief master sergeants answer questions during the Command Chief's Forum chaired by Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney McKinley during the Air Force Association's Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition on Sept. 24 in Washington D.C. The conference lasts several days and covers the newest technology and offers career enhancement seminars.



Photos by Capt. Diane Weed

52nd Component Maintenance Squadron crash recovery team pick up debris from the F-16 Fighting Falcon that crashed near Oberkail Sept. 14. The crash site was handed over to the German authorities Wednesday.



Airmen 1st Class Darnell Starkes and Dale Driggs, 52nd CMS crash recovery augmentees, participate in the clean-up efforts Wednesday.

F-16 crash recovery

Sabers get out the gloves, buckets, rakes and shovels to help with clean-up efforts



Courtesy photo

Top Saber Performer

Name: Senior Airman Jacob Fedorka
Unit: 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Duty Title: Aircrafts Structural Maintenance journeyman
Hometown: Fontana, Calif.
Years in service: Four-and-a-half
Contributions to the Air Force Mission: Airman Fedorka is the pulse of the corrosion control facility here at Spangdahlem Air Base. He is responsible for production activities that include preparation and paint applications on all assigned F-16 and A-10 aircraft, Aerospace Ground Equipment and Alternate Mission Equipment. To further magnify his contribution, Airman Fedorka contributed countless hours to the repair and painting of the F-86

“Saber” static display near the base’s main gate. His hand was in everything from researching aircraft markings, procurement of supplies and the actual application of paint.

Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: He currently spends time at the church he attends in Oberweis helping out with Sunday services and community functions.

What do you do for fun? I’m a motorcycle enthusiast, and any opportunity I get to go out on my bike and ride, I’ll take it. I also like to work on cars.

What do you like most about being stationed here? I like to get out and experience what Europe has to offer. Being able to visit and take-in all the rich history and sites is a once in a life time opportunity.

What’s one thing you’d like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem AB? More activities and events in the community. This would provide opportunities for people to interact more and in turn bring the base populous closer together.

52nd LRS civilian accomplishes 45 years

Mr. Herbert Nowaschewski, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron heavy mobile equipment mechanic, was recognized Sept. 22 for 45 years of service as an Air Force civilian employee. Mr. Nowaschewski started his career May 23, 1961, at the age of 19 as an automotive vehicle mechanic. Mr. Nowaschewski received numerous awards during his tenure, and is considered the backbone of the refueling maintenance shop and one of few civilians certified as a trainer.

His knowledge and expertise have contributed to the high standards maintained by his section, and his willingness to help others and his great personality earned him the respect of his coworkers and superiors alike. In his off-duty time, he continues to work on cars, and is also interested in volleyball, handball and soccer. He and his wife, Heidi, enjoy spending time with their two grandchildren, who currently live in Bremen.



Mr. Herbert Nowaschewski

Airman Immersion

Col. Darryl Roberson, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, and Airman 1st Class Alexander Salamacha, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron fire fighter, work together to pull a hose from the fire truck Sept. 20 during the wing commander’s Airman Immersion Program, where the wing commander learns job responsibilities and duties of Airmen throughout the wing. Airman Salamacha, a Pittsburg, Penn., native with more than six months of Air Force service under his belt, says he loves his job because he is able to help others when they are in need.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Emily Moore

Eifel Salutes

52nd Medical Group

Time to salute **Jutta Luna** for her efforts in managing a database and tracking more than 2,000 dysplasia patients; averaging 100 clinic visits each month. Her timely reporting procedures and accurate tracking decrease time active duty patients spend on profile, enhancing our ability to support the Global War on Terrorism. **Airman Vincent Lilly, Senior Airman Courtney Rogers and Staff Sgt. Mark Tuazon** acted promptly and efficiently to assist an individual who visited the clinic and eventually required transport to a local hospital for emergency treatment.



has clearly shown he is a cut above his peers.

38th Munitions Maintenance Group

Senior Airman Andrea Evans is the “razzle dazzle” for the communications maintenance element of the 701st Munitions Maintenance Squadron. She implemented a comprehensive safety and electrostatic discharge program ensuring mission integrity and making her the “go to” person for USAFE MUNSS sites.

Her direct effort helped earn the 701st MUNSS an “excellent” rating during a recent unit compliance inspection and garnered much praise from the USAFE Inspector General.

September yard, balcony winners

Housing salutes the September yard and balcony award winners:

♦ Bitburg Annex Balcony of the Month -- Senior Master Sgt. Rickey Johnson and family

♦ Spangdahlem Air Base Balcony of the Month -- Master Sgt. James Armstrong and family

♦ Binsfeld Yard of the Month -- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Smith

♦ Speicher Yard of the Month -- Master Sgt. Robert Brunt and family

Kudos to you all! Team Eifel salutes you!!

(Compiled by Senior Airman Eydie Sakura, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)

October is National Disability Employee Month

Trivia question: Where and when was the first International Special Olympics held?

The first person to e-mail the correct answer to Kimberly.Valenzuela@spangdahlem.af.mil receives a \$20 gift card from AAFES. The winner will be announced in the Oct. 6 Eifel Times.



Courtesy photo

Top Saber Team

Unit name: 726th Air Mobility Squadron Safety Team

Number of members: Seven (Left to right): Capt. Tammy McElhaney, Staff Sgt. Mark Diaz, Tech. Sgt. Chris Carroll, Staff Sgts. Michael Ours and Kelsey Backes. (Staff Sgt. Eric Simons and Senior Airman Olen Gifford not pictured)

A brief description of unit responsibilities: Prepares, maintains and inspects safety protocols for mobility operations on the flightline, in confined spaces and work centers.

How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing’s mission? Enables the wing to deploy personnel and cargo in safe and efficient environment to meet the Combatant Commanders’ needs. Ensures Air Mobility Command aircraft and servicing equipment are properly maintained and operated in a safe manner to meet operational requirements. Prepares squadron for Headquarters AMC Safety and U.S. Air Forces in Europe Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Compliance Assessment and Management Program inspections.

Team’s other contributions through the year? The team oversees and manages ground and environmental safety for the 726th AMS, transient personnel and AMC aircraft. Working closely with the 52nd Fighter Wing Safety Office, the team has been able to adapt safety policies to accommodate new mission requirements after moving from Rhein-Main Air Base to Spangdahlem AB one year ago. Additionally, the team maintains squadron safety records for 164 permanently assigned and temporary duty assignment personnel, briefs safety tips at commander calls and conducts spot checks of work areas.



Photo by Marcus Kroth

A Tops in Blue performer serenades Christel Huber during their live show at the Ulmen Burgersaal near Buechel Air Base, Germany, Sept. 19. TIB then headed south and performed at Spangdahlem Air Base Skelton Memorial Fitness Center Sept. 20.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Emily Moore

Senior Airman Darnell Moss, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, leads the Spangdahlem AB honor guard prior to the start of the TIB performance Sept. 20.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephanie Sawyer

TIB singers strut their stuff during the Spangdahlem AB show Sept. 20 at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center.



Photo by Marcus Kroth

TIB performers showcase their Country Western flare to the audiences in Buechel AB and Spangdahlem AB Sept. 19 and 20.



Photo by Marcus Kroth

Brooklyn Price, 4, daughter of Capt J. Ryan Price, gets a song sung to her at the Buechel AB show Sept. 19.



New Arrivals

Staff reports

Letter to Team Eifel

Dear Team Eifel,

What an honor it is to be here and to be your Command Chief. Both Pam and I are very happy to be back in Germany and with another team that is truly making a difference in our world.

It will be a pleasure to jump into the mission, meet the people and aid in acquiring the resources needed to accomplish our commanders' intent.

What great fortune to be a part of a great team of German and American civilians, contractors and military people. Together with our family members, we make a complete force to be reckoned with. It takes us all to make the mission happen and to keep making the differences we desire.

As we care for our people, and ensure our families' needs are met, we must always stay focused upon our purpose and why we are here. Team Eifel has had a heavy operations tempo and it is likely our pace will continue in the future.

Challenge is something we should all engage in and look forward to. We are certainly looking forward to the challenges we will face together with all of you here at Spangdahlem Air Base and in the Eifel region.

Thank you in advance for all you have and will do to help get us settled. We already feel very welcome and are excited to be here. Let us know how we can help and better serve you, after all; it is you we are here to serve. We look forward to serving with you all.

Very Respectfully,

-- Chief Master Sgt. Vance Clarke, 52nd Fighter Wing command chief master sergeant

From the top

Enlisted Perspective: AFSO21 makes difference in war fight says CMSAF

By Chief Master Sergeant Rodney McKinley
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

Everyday we see smart, motivated and brave Airmen striving to make a difference. With more than 24,000 Airmen from our total force deployed and those at home station focused on supporting the war fighter, our operations tempo is high and will remain that way into the future.

Added to our operations load are genuine concerns from our Airmen about balancing the mission with the impending drawdown of 40,000 Airmen.

The reality is that our budget must focus on recapitalizing and modernizing our aging equipment for the future while at the same time, we do whatever it takes to win today's War on Terror.

The demands of these realities make it more essential than ever for Airmen who are already contributing maximum effort to ensure their time and energy are being used wisely. From the smallest tasks to the most complex, we need to take a hard look at what we do and why we do it.

Air Force Smart Operations 21 gives us the tools we need to shed unneeded work and make sure every Airman's efforts are focused on work that contributes directly to the mission. The proven principles of AFSO 21 allow us to evaluate every process we do against the value it brings to the mission of the organization. If there's no value added by a task, we can't afford to do it - it's as simple as that.

We are committed to creating a culture within our Air Force that gives each Airman the power to improve processes they are involved with. From the newest Airman through our most senior officers, we all have a responsibility to elevate

ideas that will make the quality of our work and those we supervise better and more relevant to today's fight.

Our front line leaders are key to our success. NCOs and junior officers who lead work groups must embrace AFSO 21 tools and use them in order for our Air Force to become more productive with our time, tools and talents.

We are at the beginning of the AFSO 21 journey, but I am

"NCOs and junior officers who lead work groups must embrace AFSO21 tools and use them ... "

excited about the strides we are making. Already success stories are flowing from around our Air Force of even the youngest Airmen using AFSO 21 principles to make things better.

From the flightline to the dining halls, from offices to back shops and hangars, Airmen around our Air Force are discovering that using AFSO 21 tools to make small changes in their processes can make big impacts in productivity. They are using AFSO 21 to make their operation safer, more reliable and more productive.

I encourage each of you to seek out websites, news articles and senior leader viewpoints about AFSO 21 and explore what it can do for you. Find out how it can help you improve the way you do business.

Take advantage of the AFSO 21 training opportunities that are coming your way, and turn those opportunities into action. Our Air Force is counting on your persistence, ingenuity and skill to ensure that everything we do brings value to our service, and to the nation we serve.

Are you ready for some football ...

Leaders step off the sidelines, get into the AFSO21 game

It is time for us all to stand and cheer for the doer, the achiever -- the one who recognizes the challenges and does something about it.

-- Vince Lombardi

By Col. Christopher Poock
38th Munitions Maintenance Group commander

This article is not really about football, but it's about being ready to tackle some tough leadership issues facing our Air Force and work centers starting this fiscal year.

What I am referring to are force reductions and force shaping changes that will take place over the next few years.

Having just left the Air Staff and working the Munitions and ICBM Maintenance reductions, I have a real appreciation for the challenges we all face as we reshape our work centers. The force reductions require us to redefine our methods and process so we can meet our

mission requirements today and for tomorrow. It will take leaders.

As Air Force leaders, what do we do?

We can make that decision to either stand on the sidelines hoping everything works out, or get in the game and tackle all the issues we are faced with. Each of us must be the doer, the achiever, the visionary who takes the challenge and runs with it.

How are we going to move in this direction, to not sit on the bench, to get in the game?

We do it by asking ourselves the question Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne posed to all in his March 8 Letter to Airman, "What have I improved today?" I challenge each of you to take a good look at the way you do business. Now more than ever, we are at a time within our Air Force that we must examine our processes, look for those refinements

and develop methods for improvement.

As the upcoming manning cuts begin to take effect, and continued fiscal challenge influence some of our decisions, we are going to have to apply our resources in the most effective manner.

The Air Force provides the tools of Air Force Smart Operations 21, or AFSO 21, to help people attack these tough issues just as with football they are given tools to help people succeed, such as helmets, pads and cleats.

AFSO21 combines the best parts of several civilian efficiency programs including LEAN and Six Sigma, and equips people to develop Air Force-unique process improvements in their organizations. Lead the way by taking a look at the daily process and asking the question, "What needs to change? Where is the waste? What is redundant? What can we do better?"

Think back to when you first stepped into your squadron ... Are there things that could have made the process flow better? Are people doing business just because? All of these are the first steps we need to take as we do those proactive tweaks and make the changes and improvements required to allow the Air Force engine continue to run smoothly and powerfully.

As I work with the men and women of the 52nd Fighter Wing, and with my own wing and squadrons, I see the talent of the doers and the achievers on a daily basis, and am consistently impressed and inspired.

I stand ready to cheer as each of you tackle the upcoming challenges, maintaining the full capabilities and readiness of the world's strongest and best Air Force.



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Col. Darryl Roberson

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the Eifel Times and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

- DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil
- Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126
- To PA in building 23.
- Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.

Sortie Scoreboard

Aircraft	Goal	Flown	Delta
22FS	305	266	-15
23FS	87	37	-78
81FS	229	250	+39

*Delta is contract vs. sorties flown to date.

Through Sept. 25

Courtesy of the 52nd Operations Support Squadron Plans and Scheduling Section



Photo by Airman 1st Class Emily Moore

Sock it to me!

Col. Sid Banks, 52nd Mission Support Group commander, gets a pie in the face courtesy of Andrew Coppersmith, 7, son of Maj. Thomas Coppersmith, 606th Air Control Squadron, Tuesday. The pie in the face fundraiser raised nearly \$1,000 for the Air Force Ball and eight leaders were selected for a face full of whipped cream.

Editor's Note: Submit "Community" advertisements 10 days before the desired publication date to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil. Call the 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office Internal Information Section at 452-5244 for more information.

Air Force Ball

This year's Air Force Ball theme is "Honoring Service and Sacrifice," and takes place at Club Eifel Oct. 28 with a social hour beginning at 6 p.m. Mr. Leo Thorsness, former Vietnam POW and Medal of Honor winner, is guest speaker. Tickets are on sale now through group/unit POCs: 52nd MSG, Lt. Wong-Tworek; 52nd OG, Lt. Bailey; 52nd MDG/Spang, Capt. Hergan; 52nd MDG/Bitburg, Capt. Miker; 52nd CPTS, Senior Airman Bittner; Wing Staff, Senior Master Sgt. Hixon, Capt. Little and Staff Sgt. Meeker; and GSU/Tenant, Capt. Tammy McElhaney.

SMS Halloween dance

The Spangdahlem Middle School Parent Teacher Student Association is planning a Halloween dance Oct. 27. People who are able to donate Halloween decorations can drop them off to Becky Moore at Spangdahlem AB building 401, apt. C2. For details, call Ms. Moore at 06565-955853.

Small dog play group

People interested in starting a small dog play group should call Simone at 06574-9001108. The yard is fenced and a field and wooded area is close by for off-leash time.

CSI workshop

The Bitburg Girl Scouts hosts a CSI workshop Oct. 14 from 1-4 p.m. in the Biburg Annex building 2007. The workshop is free and open to sixth through 12th grade girls who are interested in solving crimes and learning new skills. For details, call USA Girl Scouts Overseas at 452-9190 or e-mail spangdahlemgirlscouts@hotmail.com.

College night

The Bitburg High School students, grades 9-12, can attend College Night Oct. 19 at Ramstein Air Base High School. College representatives and admission officers from dozens of public and private colleges and universities will be available for questions and answers. A bus departs BHS at 4 p.m. and returns around 10:30 p.m. There is room for 50 students and it is a first come, first serve basis. For details, call Jennifer Heinen at 452-9337.

Military history club

The European Military History Group has a meeting Oct. 8 at 5 p.m. in building 127, third floor in the JFCoE classroom.

The group is open to anyone with knowledge or interest in military history. The club shares historical information and attends trips to historical sites. For details, call Tech. Sgt. Dan Williams at 452-6571 or e-mail EMGH-1@hotmail.com.

Clothing drive

Combat comfort group is sponsoring a clothing drive for Iraqi people near Kirkuk Air Base. They are requesting adult and children plain undershirts (any color, just plain); small hand towels; hygiene items for men, women and children (travel sizes work best); plain socks for children and adults; underwear for children (any age); and travel first-aid kits. For safety purposes, all donated items must have no logos. All clothing items (except the underwear) can be new or used, and drop boxes are available at the Spangdahlem AB B-Xtra. For details, call Airman 1st Class Stephen Perakes at 452-6805.

Mothers of Preschoolers

The MOPS group seeks mothers of children ages 5 and under to join them. The group which meets twice a month offers the opportunity to connect with other mothers. The next meeting takes place Monday from 9-11:30 a.m. in building 139. In addition, MOPS needs volunteers to run children's art projects, conduct library visits and teach mini bible lessons during meetings from 8:45-11:30 a.m. For more information, call 452-6711.

Virtual training for spouses

The Airman and Family Readiness Center offers MSVA training for spouses interested in a portable career Oct. 10-12. Training focuses on the realities of entrepreneurship as well as launching and marketing a business. Participations must apply and be accepted into the program. For more information, call 452-6422.

Give Parents a Break

Give Parents a Break is a program, compliments of the Air Force Aid Society, designed to provide free weekend child care on select days for stressful times. The next available opening is Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB child development center. All reservations and required paperwork must be received by noon on the Thursday prior to the weekend. For reservation guidelines, call the Airman & Family Readiness Center at 452-6422.

Library news

Children's story hour at the Spangdahlem AB library is Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call Raquel Santos at 452-6203 or 452-9055.

Chapel Services

Spangdahlem AB

Catholic Mass

- ♦ Saturday, 5 p.m.
- ♦ Sunday, 8:30 a.m.
- ♦ Sunday, religious education, 9:45 a.m. (building 139)
- ♦ Monday - Thursday, 11:45 a.m.

Protestant

- ♦ Sunday, 10:30 a.m., traditional service
- ♦ Sunday, 1 p.m., Korean service
- ♦ Sunday, 5 p.m., Sunday Night Live service

Bitburg Annex

Catholic Mass

- ♦ Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
- ♦ Monday, 8:30 a.m.

Protestant

- ♦ Sunday, 8:15 a.m., Liturgical; 9:30 a.m., Contemporary; 1 p.m., Gospel Service

For more information about Jewish, Islamic, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults or other faith needs, call the chapel at 452-6711/6281.

MONGOLIAN BBQ

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3
5-8PM

Select from a wide variety of meats, vegetables and sauces.

Watch as the chefs stir fry it to perfection!

Members - 60¢ per oz.

Non - Members - 90¢ per oz.

Reservations required, call 452-4633



Club Eifel
AIR FORCE SERVICES
CLUBS
Spangdahlem AB, Germany

Der Markt

Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The Eifel Times staff reserves the right to edit ads.

Movies

The following movie listings are for today through Oct. 5. Times and movies are subject to change. For more information, call 06565-61-9441 or 452-9441. For movie synopses, visit www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

◆ *Lady in the Water* (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

Apartment building superintendent Cleveland Heep rescues what he thinks is a young woman from the pool he maintains. Then he discovers that she is actually a character from a bedtime story who is trying to make the journey back to her home.



◆ *John Tucker Must Die* (PG-13, 9:30 p.m.)

Three ex-girlfriends of a serial cheater set up their former lover to fall for the new girl in town so they can watch him get his heart broken.

Saturday

◆ *Invincible* (PG, 7 p.m.)

An inspiring sports movie stars Mark Wahlberg as a Philadelphia Eagles fan who has just lost his wife and his teaching job. He decides one day to show up for an open tryout for his favorite NFL team, only to see his wildest dreams come true.

◆ *Lady in the Water* (9:30 p.m.)

Sunday

◆ *Invincible* (4 p.m.)

◆ *John Tucker Must Die* (7 p.m.)

Monday

◆ *Lady in the Water* (7 p.m.)

Tuesday

◆ *Invincible* (7 p.m.)

Wednesday and Thursday closed

Bitburg Castle

Today

◆ *My Super Ex-Girlfriend* (PG-13, 9:30 p.m.)

Everyone's had a painful parting of the ways with a romantic partner, but for one New York guy, it's not going to be so easy. When he breaks up with his girlfriend, he discovers his ex is actually the reluctant superhero, G-Girl.



◆ *Clerks II* (R, 9:30 p.m.)

Best friends Dante Hicks and Randal Graves were New Jersey mini-mall clerks still slacking off together in their early 20s. Now working in the fast-food universe, they have managed to maintain, and even hone, their in-your-face attitudes, agile skill with vulgarities and unbridled love of screwing the customers.

Saturday

◆ *Monster House* (PG, 7 p.m.)

Although no adults will believe them, three children realize a neighbor's house is really a monster. They must find a way to stop the house and save the neighborhood.

◆ *Snakes on a Plane* (R, 9:30 p.m.)

A ruthless assassin unleashes a crate full of lethal snakes aboard a packed passenger jet over the Pacific Ocean in order to eliminate a witness in protective custody. The rookie pilot and frightened passengers must band together to survive.

Sunday

◆ *My Super Ex-Girlfriend* (4 p.m.)

◆ *Snakes on a Plane* (7 p.m.)

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

◆ *Clerks II* (7 p.m.)

Thursday

◆ *Snakes on a Plane* (7 p.m.)



Photos by Jengel

Jean Heinen sells walnut travel packs to visitors of the 2004 Vianden Neessmoort. The annual nut fair features many kinds of walnut products, from the edible treats to art for display. The event takes place all day Sunday. For more information about Vianden and the fair, visit www.nessmoort.lu/.

People go nuts in Vianden!

Ancient town in Luxembourg celebrates walnut abundance

By Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

This Sunday, the town of Vianden is the site for an unusual event, the ancient "Neessmoort," meaning "nut fair," which attracts more than 15,000 visitors annually.

Most, if not all, of the products offered at this market contain or are made of walnuts. More than 25 vendor stands lining the streets sell nut wines, liquors, sausages, cakes and even art.

The idea for the event started many years ago, when people had a large harvest of walnuts. Instead of wasting the healthy food, the townspeople decided to have a market where they could sell the extra nuts.

According to studies by the American Heart Association, walnuts are high in omega-3 fatty acids, such as alpha-linolenic acid, which is believed to be healthy for the arteries. The study also finds that walnut fats may help lower unhealthy cholesterol levels.

But the nut fair isn't just popular for its health effects. The event gained popularity because of the creative ways in which the people of Vianden marketed their walnuts. In addition to food and art, musical entertainment is offered inside the local pubs and restaurants. Vianden castle is also open for visitors to view the facility's collection of medieval weapons, armor and art.

Shuttle busses offer transportation for people who aren't nuts about walking to and from the Park & Ride areas located outside the town center.

About Vianden

◆ The ancient town is situated on the banks of the Our River and is located about 25 miles north of the city of Luxembourg.

◆ Vianden castle dates back to the 9th century and was the home of powerful nobles of the 11th and 13th centuries. The ruined castle was restored in the 1980s.

◆ The ancient town offers a number of museums and art



Crowds of nut fair enthusiasts fill Vianden's ancient streets.

exhibitions at the "Pumpspeicherwerk," or hydroelectric pumping works, which was once one of Europe's most powerful pumping stations.

◆ In 1871 the great French writer Victor Hugo spent his voluntary exile at Vianden. Hugo's house at the bridge opened as the Victor Hugo Museum in 1935, featuring the writer's letters, furnishings, personal documents and reproductions of his drawings sketched during his stay. A bust of Hugo, sculpted by the famous artist Rodin, stands on the breastwork of the bridge.

◆ The surrounding area features established walking trails, a chairlift to the castle, a heated outdoor swimming pool, mini-golf, fishing and bicycle tours.



Photo by Gary Sakura

Statuesque city

Riga, Latvia, a former Soviet Union republic until 1991, is filled with art museums, statues, eclectic architecture (including Art Nouveau), and is rich in history. After gaining its independence from Germany in 1918, Stalin's Soviet Union conquered them nearly 20 years later. Riga offers travelers a modern feel with ancient roots.

Out and About

◆ Enjoy the annual Kroeve wine and town festival **today** through **Monday** with wine tastings, music and entertainment at the local festival hall.

◆ An October festival takes place **today** through **Oct. 21** at the Cloister Machern, located near the Mosel town of Zeltingen-Rachtig. For details or to reserve a party group table, call 06532-951640.

◆ **Tuesday** is German Reunion Day, a German federal holiday. Stores will be closed throughout the country.

Sports Briefs

Congratulations

Congratulations to the winners of the Run for the Red Cross 5K, 10K and half-marathon Sept. 16. First and second place winners were:

- ♦ 5K: **Linda Hogan**, 81st FS, and **Charles Johnson**, 52nd CES;
- ♦ 10K: **Daryn Straley**, 52nd MDOS, and **Katherine Straley**, civilian;
- ♦ Half-marathon: **Lawrence Herstel**, 52nd CMS, and **Hu Chou Kim**, 52nd MDOS.

Body building championship

The 2006 U.S. Forces in Europe Body Building Championship and Fitness Expo is Oct. 14-15 at Karmstadt in the Camrai-Fritsch Kaserne Fitness Center. Competitive categories include strong man, bodybuilding and figure.

Cheer squad try outs

Sabers interested in trying out for the first-ever Spangdahlem AB cheer squad can try out Oct. 17 and 19 from 6-8 p.m. at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center aerobics room. The squad is looking for highly motivated, spirited people who wish to support Spang's team sports. For details, call Senior Airman Krystle Archer at 452-3310 or Shevon Sledge at 01515-736-494. Limited experience is necessary.

Upcoming basketball events

For details on upcoming events, call Ed Marshall at 452-6634 or Sidney Mitchell at 452-3320.

- ♦ Intramural basketball tournament, Oct. 13-15, \$50 per team with double-elimination;
- ♦ Intramural basketball and over 30 basketball letters of intent are due are Oct. 25. The season starts in November. For more information, call 452-3365.
- ♦ Fall classic, Oct. 21-22, \$250 per team with double-elimination, team awards; and
- ♦ Spangdahlem-Bitburg Midnight Madness, Nov. 25-26, events include slam dunk contest, 3-point shootout and games.



Courtesy photo

Rugby stand alone

Ed Marshall, 52nd Services Squadron, looks to elude Luxembourg defenders during the Ramstein Rugby tournament Sept. 16. Trier Rugby Club is looking for people interested in playing and learning the sport of Rugby. All levels of players are welcomed. Practices are held Tuesday and Thursday in Trier. For more information, call Ed Marshall at 452-6634 or visit www.edmarshall25.com.

BHS runs around the world five years straight

Story and photo by Denny Lemmon
Bitburg High School

Bitburg High School kicks off "Running Around the World Five," a faculty and student run program designed to improve health by moving their bodies and promoting an active lifestyle.

The United States Surgeon General said that people could substantially improve their health and quality of life by including only a moderate amount of physical activity in their lives. According to the report, regular participation in physical activity can:

- ♦ Reduce the risk of dying prematurely;
- ♦ Reduce the risk of dying from heart disease;
- ♦ Reduce the risk of developing diabetes;
- ♦ Reduce the risk of developing high blood pressure;
- ♦ Help reduce blood pressure in people who already have high blood pressure;
- ♦ Reduce feelings of depression and anxiety;
- ♦ Promotes psychological well being;
- ♦ Helps control weight, build lean muscle and reduce fat; and
- ♦ Helps build and maintain healthy bones, muscle and joints.

With all of those amazing benefits, the students and faculty are once again running, walking, biking, swimming, dancing, skipping and crawling in their fifth annual attempt at going "around the world."

The circumference around the world is approximately 24,855 miles. In 2003, BHS participants covered 38,237 miles; in 2004 they hit 50,284 miles; and in 2005, they set the school record at 52,955 miles. In 2006, they did not set a



Bitburg High School students make their way "around the world" at the start of a one mile run at the school track. Students and faculty hope to run more than 52,955 miles by June, in order to break their 2004 record.

new record, but they still ran an amazing 48,483 miles.

The question is: How many miles will be covered this school year? What beautiful countries will people visit this year? Can BHS break the school record and run more than 52,955 miles by next June?

Last school year, faculty and staff "traveled" north to Denmark and over to the Scandinavian countries of Norway, Sweden and Finland. They stopped in Moscow before crossing Siberia to the Sea of Laptev and the Sea of Okhotsk. Then they arrived in Alaska, but then decided to head back through Asia and on to Hokkaido Japan, Tokyo, and took a quick tour of South Korea.

They "traveled" to Beijing and down to Shanghai and passed through Manila in the Philippines before doing some snorkeling and scuba diving at the Great Barrier Reef by Australia.

They stopped in Sidney and Melbourne, Australia, before crossing the sea to New Zealand. As the school year came to an end, they quickly passed through the Fiji Islands and finally decided to spend the summer on the Hawaiian Islands.

How are the miles accumulated? Each physical education class has about 25 students, and when they run a mile, that makes 25 miles in the effort to "Run Around the World." Having five classes of physical education each day would total 125 miles. Each athletic team runs a mile or two each day and the coach sends in the number of miles accumulated at the end of the week.

Last year, more than half of faculty sent in the miles they had run each Monday morning. BHS averaged an amazing 1,500 miles per week.

With all those miles being accumulated, people can be assured that those participants are taking the right steps toward a happier healthier lifestyle.

BHS girls' cross country team is victorious again

By David Turner

Bitburg High School

The Bitburg High School girls' cross country team traveled to Mannheim, Germany, Sept. 23 and ran away with their second team victory in two tries.

The Baronesses were led by **Sandra Davidson**, who covered the 5K race in 22 minutes, 8 seconds to capture second place overall (out of 30), two seconds behind the first place finisher.

Rounding out the top ten finishers were **Rachel Poock**, third, 22:19; **Ericha Griep**, seventh, 23:45; **Erica Green**, ninth, 23:53; and **Erika Feldhausen**, 10th, 24:5.

Seventh grader **Brianna Checkley** completed her first race in 25:00 and received first in the exhibition category.

Completing the team were **Kara Elder**, 28:34; **Erin Elbel**, 29:26; **Rebekah Bartlett**, 29:46; and **Kamaile Snyder**, 36:59.

The boys' team had one runner in the top 10, **Ryan Poock**, who finished third overall (out of 37) with a time of 17:24, four seconds behind the winner. The rest of the team consisted of **Zeth McNeal**, 20:37; **Joey Denton**, 21:20; **Jonathan Barber**, 22:40; **Chris King**, 24:17; **Jacob Luning**, 25:01; and **Zekariah McNeal**, 29:47.